

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BANGKO 06279 131450Z

45

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

----- 123791

O 131251Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2660

INFO AMEMBASSY SAIGON IMMEDIATE

USSAG NKP THAI IMMEDIATE

CINCPAC THAI IMMEDIATE

CINCPACAF IMMEDIATE

SEAAC 7TH SDA UTAPAO AFLD TH IMMEDIATE

SCOTT AFB ILL/MAC IMMEDIATE

SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

CSAF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

JLO CAMP SAMAE SAN IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL BANGKOK 6279

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, MASS, CB, US

SUBJECT: CONTINUATION OF ASSISTANCE TO CAMBODIA

REF: STATE 084186 (130054Z APR 75)

CAMBODIA-B NO. 12

1. BELIEVE MOST PRACTICAL ARRANGEMENT FOR CONTINUATION

HUMANITARIAN AIRLIFT RICE TO CAMBODIA WOULD BE ALTERNATIVE B,

REFTEL. WE INFORMED, HOWEVER, THAT RIGGING CREWS CURRENTLY WORKING UNDER BIRD CONTRACT ARE FULLY OCCUPIED AT PRESENT. ACCORDINGLY, U.S. ARMY OR AIR FORCE RIGGING TEAMS AND U.S.A.F. INSPECTOR WOULD HAVE TO BE ASSIGNED TO WORK AT TAN SON NHUT. RIGGING TEAMS AND INSPECTOR WOULD REMAIN IN SAIGON. C-130'S WOULD FLY TO TAN SON NHUT FROM UTAPAO EACH DAY; PICK UP RIGGED LOADS OF RICE FOR AIR DROP (RICE MUST BE DOUBLE-BAGGED); SHUTTLE ALL DAY BETWEEN SAIGON AND CAMBODIA

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DROP LOCATIONS; AND MOVE TO UTAPAO EACH EVENING UPON COMPLETION OF THEIR FINAL AIR DROP.

2. THIS ARRANGEMENT SHOULD BE PUT INTO EFFECT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. WE ESTIMATE THAT FORTY-SIX SORTIES PER DAY WOULD BE REQUIRED TO SUSTAIN, AT MINIMUM NUTRITIONAL LEVEL, POPULATION OF PHNOM PENH ALONE. CURRENT AIR DROP CAPACITY CLEARLY IS INSUFFICIENT. WE ADVISED REQUIRED NUMBER OF SORTIES FEASIBLE ONLY IF U.S. MILITARY RIGGERS AND AIR CREWS AND ADDITIONAL C-130 AIRCRAFT ARE ASSIGNED AS DESCRIBED ABOVE. IT SHOULD BE RECOGNIZED THAT PURCHASE OF LARGE QUANTITY OF AIR DROP EQUIPMENT, SUCH AS PARACHUTES AND STRAPS, ALSO WILL BE REQUIRED.

3. ADVISE ON URGENT BASIS IF FOREGOING CONCEPT APPROVED SO THAT WE MAY MAKE DETAILED ARRANGEMENTS AND PROVIDE PROCUREMENT LIST.

4. EMBASSY BANGKOK ENDORSES THIS APPROACH AND BELIEVES RTG WOULD NOT OBJECT TO OVERNIGHTING AIRCRAFT IN UTAPAO.
MASTERS

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